

House Resolution No. 374

Whereas, it is with heavy hearts that the members of the Missouri House of Representatives pause to acknowledge the significant achievements of a life gone by, that of Billie L. “Bill” Kratz, who passed to his eternal reward on Sunday, January 25, 2004; and

Whereas, born on May 12, 1938, Bill Kratz dutifully served his country in the National Guard from 1961 to 1966, and worked in quality control at the General Motors Leeds Assembly Plant for thirty years before retiring in 1989; and

Whereas, a resident of Independence since 1973, Bill Kratz was extremely interested in the development of the Independence area and decided to play a part in it by applying for the Independence Planning Commission, to which he was appointed in 1999; and

Whereas, throughout his impressive tenure with the Independence Planning Commission, Bill Kratz helped approve plans for developments including Hartman Heritage, Eastland Center, the Blue Ridge Bank & Trust building, Drumm Farm and Winterstone golf courses, numerous residential developments, and hundreds of other projects; and

Whereas, Bill Kratz was a devout member of the Messiah Lutheran Church, where he glorified the Lord as an elder, Bethel teacher, chairman of social ministry, and chairman of the congregation; and

Whereas, a proud father and caring husband who greatly enjoyed working in his yard and spending time with his grandchildren, Bill Kratz leaves behind to cherish his memory his devoted wife of forty-three years, Patricia A. Kratz; his son and daughter-in-law, Keith A. and Laura Kratz of Independence; his daughter and son-in-law, Dana L. and Lanny Bennefeld, Jr., of Blue Springs; his mother, Goldie F. Kratz of Higginsville; and his eight grandchildren, Jennifer, Jessica, Elise, Joshua, Danielle, Shannon, Brandon, and Aaron:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, unanimously join in paying final tribute to Bill Kratz, a remarkable individual and dedicated public servant who will be greatly missed by all those who had the distinct pleasure of knowing and loving him; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution for the widow of the late Billie L. “Bill” Kratz, as an expression of our deepest sympathy.

Offered by _____

Representative Paul LeVota

District No. 52

Representative Trent Skaggs

District No. 31

I, Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-second General Assembly, Second Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 374, adopted February 4, 2004.

Catherine L. Hanaway, Speaker